

Re: Primary Care Practitioner Recruitment and Retention Program

“Whereas the rate of general/family physicians in Chatham-Kent is 76.9 per 100,000 population, which is lower than the Eire St. Clair LHIN (92.5 per 100,000), which is lower than the province (109.4/100,000); and

Whereas in 2018, Chatham-Kent had approximately 65 primary practice physicians and of these primary practice physicians 25% were between the ages of 55 and 64 and another 17% were 65 and older; and

Whereas 62% of primary practice physicians practice in the city of Chatham; and

Whereas despite 94.8% of Chatham City Centre residents and 97.2% of Rural Kent residents, aged 16 and older, reported having a primary care provider (a family doctor, general practitioner, or nurse practitioner), in 2017 46% of Chatham City Centre and 58.5% of Rural Kent residents reported that their emergency room visit was for a condition that could have been managed by their primary care provider, had that provider been available; and

Whereas current data is not available on resident satisfaction with the location of their primary care practitioner in relation to where they live, anecdotal data continues to have residents seeking a primary care practitioner in their local community.

Therefore be it resolved that administration work with the Erie St. Clair LHIN to reinstate a primary care practitioner recruitment and retention program for Chatham-Kent and that \$100,000 be submitted to the 2019 budget in support of this program.”

Signed: Councillor Thompson

Notice Given On: December 10, 2018